



State of Wisconsin
Department of Workforce Development
Office of Economic Advisors

JULY 2005

WORKFORCE OBSERVATIONS FOR MILWAUKEE/WOW COUNTIES

MILWAUKEE, WASHINGTON, OZAUKEE AND WAUKESHA COUNTIES

MORE JOBS IN JUNE IN METRO AREA

The unemployment rate in the **Milwaukee County** was 6.1 percent in June. June's rate is two-tenths of percentage point higher than May's, though it is significantly lower than June 2004's mark of 6.8 percent. At this time, there are over 3,400 fewer unemployed residents in Milwaukee County than there were in June 2004.

employment rate increased five-tenths of a percentage point, monthly, to 4.5 percent. It is lower than last June's rate by three-tenths of a percentage point.

Ozaukee County's unemployment rate was measured 4.1 percent in June; up from 3.6 percent in May. Noteworthy is the fact that Ozaukee was the only county in this metro area, and one of only a

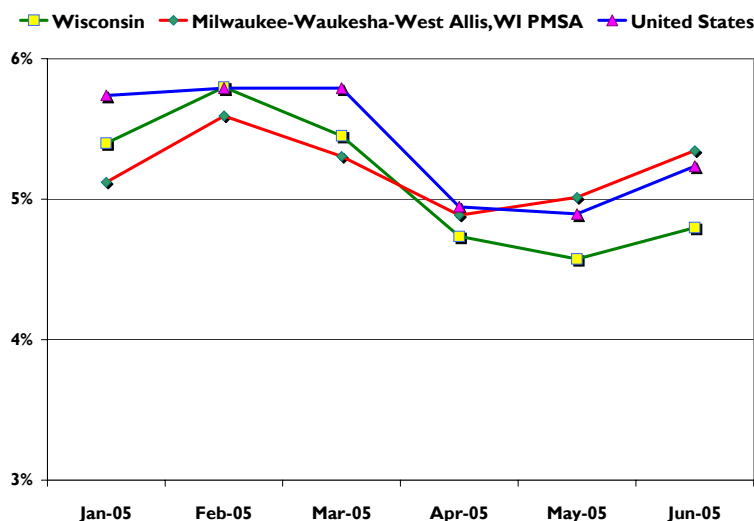
handful of Wisconsin's counties, to show an annual increase in its unemployment rate. Its rate is slightly higher than last June's by one-tenth of a percentage point. It should be noted that this slight increase is attributed to a decline in the county's employed and not a significant jump in the number of its unemployed residents.

The June unemployment rate for **Waukesha County** was 4.2 percent, which was higher than May's final rate of 3.8 percent. It was lower, annually, by three-tenths of percentage point. The county's labor force data show that there are over 200 fewer employed and just over 700 fewer unemployed residents.

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the **Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis MSA** was 5.3 percent in June. On a monthly basis, the seasonal change to the labor force added almost 11,000 more employed since May. The number of unemployed also increased by 3,400. For most coun-

Washington County's June un-

Six-Month Unemployment Rate Watch



Civilian Labor Force Estimates for Milwaukee-Waukesha MSA counties: June 2005

	Wisconsin			Milwaukee-Waukesha-WV. Allis MSA			Milwaukee County		
	Jun-05	May-05	Jun-04	Jun-05	May-05	Jun-04	Jun-05	May-05	Jun-04
Labor force	3,092,885	3,032,434	3,117,218	806,058	791,708	811,192	470,676	462,560	474,558
Employed	2,944,500	2,893,723	2,955,979	762,970	752,021	763,742	441,758	435,419	442,205
Unemployed	148,385	138,711	161,239	43,088	39,687	47,450	28,918	27,141	32,353
% Unemployed	4.8%	4.6%	5.2%	5.3%	5.0%	5.8%	6.1%	5.9%	6.8%
	Washington County			Ozaukee County			Waukesha County		
	Jun-05	May-05	Jun-04	Jun-05	May-05	Jun-04	Jun-05	May-05	Jun-04
Labor force	71,778	70,394	72,056	48,332	47,389	48,378	215,272	211,365	216,200
Employed	68,559	67,575	68,628	46,372	45,706	46,419	206,281	203,321	206,490
Unemployed	3,219	2,819	3,428	1,960	1,683	1,959	8,991	8,044	9,710
% Unemployed	4.5%	4.0%	4.8%	4.1%	3.6%	4.0%	4.2%	3.8%	4.5%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and DWD, Local Area Unemployment Statistics. Figures are not seasonally adjusted and current month's data are preliminary

Industry Employment Estimates for the Milwaukee-Waukesha MSA: June 2005

Place of Work Employment in 1,000's	Wisconsin			Milwaukee - Wauk - W.Allis MSA		
	June 2005	Change since May 2005	Change since June 2004	June 2005	Change since May 2005	Change since June 2004
All Industries	2,874.7	30.1	26.7	852.9	7.0	9.3
Construction/Natural Resources	147.3	8.9	7.8	38.3	1.7	3.1
Manufacturing	508.3	7.3	1.7	136.4	1.1	0.8
Retail Trade	318.2	3.2	-2.0	81.8	1.0	-1.9
Wholesale Trade	119.2	3.1	4.2	40.1	0.0	0.8
Transport/Warehouse/Utilities	108.6	-0.9	0.2	30.6	-0.1	-0.1
Financial Activities	159.7	1.6	0.0	56.9	0.6	-1.1
Education and Health Services	379.6	-4.6	4.1	133.9	-0.6	3.4
Leisure and Hospitality	271.4	10.3	5.6	69.4	1.3	0.0
Info./Prof./Bus.and Other Services	446.2	8.6	3.5	172.5	1.8	4.8
Information	50.6	-0.2	0.6	18.2	-0.1	-0.4
Professional and Business Services	258.4	7.1	2.6	113.0	2.0	5.9
Other Services	137.2	1.7	0.3	41.3	-0.1	-0.7
Fed/State/Local Government	416.2	-7.4	1.6	93.0	0.2	-0.5

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and DWD, Current Employment Statistics. Figures are rounded and may not sum to total. Current month's figures are preliminary

ties, the month of June is the peak of the labor force. The summer season begs for more workers and, coincidentally, many more potential workers, such as high school and college students and others seeking temporary opportunities, have become available to meet these employers' needs. So it is not uncommon to see increases in the newly employed as well as increases in the unemployed, whom are beating the path seeking these summer jobs.

The annual perspective of the metro labor force continues to show a dramatic decrease in unemployment rate as it is five-tenths of a point lower than what it was in June 2004. Overall, the metro labor force is approximately 5,100 participants smaller than at this time last year. The majority of this loss is due to the fact that there are almost 4,400 fewer unemployed residents, annually. There are almost 800 fewer employed as well.

The tally of employment by industry in the **Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis MSA** numbered 852,900 total jobs in June according to nonfarm wage and salary employment survey estimates. This is the first time that the metro area has eclipsed the 850,000-

jobs mark since October 2001. It is also the highest total for the month of June since 2001. The metro area job totals in July, historically, tend to drop compared to June, but they rebound in August and tend to gradually rise through the rest of the year.

The metro area posted a net monthly gain of about 7,000 jobs. The majority of industry sectors posted monthly gains with the largest of them being in professional and business services, construction, and leisure and hospitality sectors. Construction employment is currently at record levels. Manufacturing employment grew by 1,100 jobs compared to May's final tally. The only industry to register a noteworthy loss of employment over the month was education and health services (-600 jobs). This loss is a net loss as the healthcare portion of this industry did grow in employment, while the educational portion of this sector lost jobs, seasonally, compared to May as one would expect going into the summer transition.

From an annual standpoint, the total industry employment figure is 9,300 jobs higher. Three industry sectors have lead the way of this net growth.

Professional and business services shows 5,900 more jobs. Education and health services has posted 3,400 more jobs. And construction employment has increased by 3,100 jobs. Manufacturing has maintained annual growth in June posting 800 more jobs than the sector had in June 2004. A handful of sectors have posted job losses. Retail trade is almost 2,000 jobs lower than its level one year ago. Financial activities is still hovering over the 1,000 fewer jobs mark. Total government employment tallied 500 fewer jobs compared to last June. The majority of the government employment loss has taken place at the county and municipal government level.

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